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## **SUDAN NEWS-FEED**

**August 1, 2005**

## SUDAN NEWS-FEED For Monday, August 1, 2005

**Compiled as a service by the Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, Khartoum, Sudan.  
The Sudan News-Feed attempts to present a summary covering the spectrum of Sudanese  
press and international reporting about Sudan.**

**This report summarizes and covers the news but does not necessarily reflect the views of  
the U.S. Government.**

### **Top Headlines from the Sudanese Press**

The following are top headlines from the Sudanese press on August 1, 2005:

**\*\*\*\*NOTE: "The Juba Post" (independent English-language weekly) has been  
suspended again, allegedly for not being able to pay the National Press  
Council's license fee (approximately \$10,000).**

**The majority of Arabic-language newspapers reported today in  
their inside pages that the helicopter carrying the First Vice  
President John Garang was missing and its location unknown. The  
two-English newspapers, "Khartoum Monitor" and "Sudan Vision,"  
however, did not publish any reports on the incident.**

**The official announcements of 1st VP Garang's death did not come  
until the morning, after the newspapers had already been printed.**

**All official announcements, including statements by President Al-  
Bashir (see below), were broadcast from the morning on Sudan TV  
& Radio.**

**"Al-Ayaam"-- independent daily Arabic-language newspaper  
<http://www.alayaam.net>**

- International and National Efforts to Determine the Location of Garang's Plane
- Presidency Issues Statement Regarding the Loss of Contact with First Vice President's Plane
- Agreement Between the GOS and NDA on Formation of Joint Committee
- Hexagonal Committee Anticipates Formation of New Government Before August 9<sup>th</sup>

**“Al-Rai Al-Aam” -- pro-GOS daily Arabic-language newspaper**

<http://www.rayaam.net>

- Contradicting Reports Regarding the Fate of the First Vice President’s Plane
- SPLA Spokesman: The First Vice President Arrived Safely in South Sudan
- SPLA Holds Emergency Meeting in Nairobi
- Umma Party and Popular Congress Party Choose to Remain as Opposition
- Pronk: Kalma Camp Has Become a Refuge to Criminals

**“Al-Sahafa”-- pro-GOS but increasingly independent daily Arabic-language newspaper**

<http://www.alsahafa.info/news>

- Garang Faces Unknown Fate in the Jungles of the South
- Meetings in Khartoum and Nairobi Regarding the Missing Plane of the First Vice President
- Twelve Parties Agree to Participate in New Government
- Al-Jazeera University Closed Down Following Clashes Between Students

**“Akhbar Al-Youm” -- pro-GOS daily Arabic-language newspaper**

<http://www.akhbaralyoumsd.com>

- The Search is Still Going on To Find First Vice President’s Helicopter
- State of Emergency Announced Until More Details are Revealed
- Ugandan Official: The Fate of John Garang is Not Known to Us Yet

**“Alwan”-- pro -Popular Congress Party daily Arabic-language newspaper**

- Mystery Surrounds Fate of Garang’s Plane
- First Vice President’s Plane Disappears at Uganda Borders Following Meeting with Ugandan President
- SPLA to Appoint Sylva Kir to Succeed Garang
- Pronk Commends GOS Efforts in Combating Violence Against Women

**“Al-Hayat” -- pro-GOS daily Arabic-language newspaper**

<http://www.alhayatsdn.com>

- First Vice President’s Airplane Lands in A Camp In South Sudan
- GOS Begin Direct Negotiations With NDA
- Death of 17 Members of the SLA Following Clashes With JEM in Darfur
- Al-Jazeera University Closed Down Following Clashes Between Students

**“Al-Adwaa”-- independent daily Arabic-language newspaper**

[aladdwaa@myway.com](mailto:aladdwaa@myway.com)

- Garang's Airplane Lost On its Way to Back From Kampla
- Search Campaign Begins to Locate First Vice President's Plane
- GOS Begin Direct Negotiations With NDA

**“Al-Khartoum” - pro-Democratic Unionist Party daily Arabic-language newspaper**

- Plane of First Vice President Garang Lost
- GOS Begin Search for Missing Plane of First Vice President Garang
- NDA to Discuss With GOS Arrangements for Participation in New Government

**“Al-Sharia Al-Siyasi” -- pro-GOS daily Arabic-language newspaper**

- Mysterious Disappearance of Garang's Airplane in South Sudan
- GOS to Continue Diplomatic Presence in Iraq
- Death of 17 Members of the SLA Following Clashes With JEM in Darfur

**“Al-Anbaa” -- the Government-owned daily Arabic-language newspaper**

<http://www.alanbaa.info>

- Hexagonal Committee Continue Talks to Form Government of National Unity
- Death of 17 Following Clashes Between Rebels in Darfur

**“Sudan Vision”-- pro-GOS daily English-language newspaper**

<http://www.sudanvisiondaily.com>

- GOS Committed to Privatization Policy: Minister
- Al-Bashir Affirms Support for NCP South Sector
- GOS-SPLM Commission Concludes Session
- Al-Bashir Affirms Support for NCP South Sector
- State Minister for Foreign Affairs Receives Finnish Minister
- Sudan Opposition Coalition Optimistic on Talks With Government

**“Khartoum Monitor”-- independent with pro-Southern Sudan orientation daily English-language newspaper**

- Sudan Will Decide on White Nile Oilfield Case
- Khartoum Monitor Disappoints USAP
- Southern Refugees Set to Return
- Ugandans Back Multi-Party Politics in Referendum
- SPLM Opens a New Office In Al Fasher

**The following articles from the Sudanese and international press are included in full in the attachment below.**

### **Sudan News Agency -SUNA (August 1, 2005)**

<http://www.Suna-sd.Net>

- The Presidency of Sudan Announces Death of Dr. John Garang
- Joint Six-Member Committee Between National Congress And SPLM Concludes Its Work
- Japanese Aid To Conflict-Affected Farmers In Southern Sudan
- Council Of Ministers Reviews A Number Of Reports
- Egyptian Investment Minister To Attend Inauguration Of Sudanese - Egyptian Bank
- State Minister For Foreign Affairs Receives Finnish Ambassador
- Minister Announces Reconsideration Of Budget To Meet Requirements Of Peace
- Al-Bashir Affirms National Congress Support For The South Sector
- Vice President Receives Chairman Of Saudi-German Hospitals Group

### **The Associated Press(August 1 ,2005)**

Sudan Confirms Death Of VP Garang

### **BBC( August 1, 2005)**

Riots After Sudan VP Garang Dies

### **Sudan Radio Service(August 1, 2005)**

Dr. John Garang Killed in Helicopter Crash; Government of Sudan and SPLM Remain Committed to Peace

### **AFP (August 1, 2005)**

Sudan's SPLM Says Garang Death Won't Hurt Peace Deal

### **AFX (August 1, 2005)**

Riots Break Out In Khartoum After Sudan Vice-President's Death

### **The Associated Press (August 1, 2005)**

Garang Helicopter Wreckage, Bodies Found In Remote Southern Sudan

### **Reuters (August 1, 2005)**

- Sudan VP, Former Rebel Leader Garang Dead-State TV  
By Khaled Abdel-Aziz and Daniel Wallis  
Mon Aug 1, 2005 7:09 AM BST

- Sudan's Former Rebel Leader Garang Dead-UN Official  
By Khaled Abdel-Aziz and Daniel Wallis  
Mon Aug 1, 2005 6:34 AM

### **The Associated Press (August 1, 2005)**

- Sudanese VP, 13 Others Die In Plane Crash  
Monday, August 1, 2005; 2:24 AM  
By Mohamed Osman And Tanalee Smith

**AFP (August 1, 2005)**

- Sudan Confirms Death Of Vice-President Garang

**Xinhuanet (August 1, 2005)**

- Sudan Confirms Death Of Vice President Garang

**The New York Times (August 1, 2005)**

- New No. 2 In Sudan, An Ex-Rebel Leader, Dies In Copter Crash

By Marc Lacey

**Other websites for Sudan News:**

<http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/Archive/2005/May/12-676357.html?chanlid=washfile>

<http://www.state.gov>

<http://allafrica.com>

<http://www.sudanmirror.com>

Sudan Radio Service

<http://www.sudanradio.org>

<http://www.sol-sd.com>

<http://sudan.net>

<http://www.sudantribune.com>

<http://smcsudan.net>

Civilian Protection Monitoring Team website

<http://www.cpmtsudan.org>

IRIN News (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs--SUDAN page)

[http://www.irinnews.org/frontpage.asp?SelectRegion=East\\_Africa&SelectCountry=Sudan](http://www.irinnews.org/frontpage.asp?SelectRegion=East_Africa&SelectCountry=Sudan)

UN News Centre (SUDAN page)

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=88&Body=Sudan&Body1>

Relief Web (SUDAN page):

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc108?OpenForm&emid=ACOS-636PJQ&rc=1>

Alertnet (SUDAN page)

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/emergency/246397.htm>

Humanitarian Information Center for Darfur:

<http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/darfur/default>

Al Bab: Khartoum Handbook and Diary

<http://www.coresudan.com>

Refugees International:

<http://www.refugeesinternational.org>

NATO

<http://www.nato.int/>

U.S. European Command

<http://www.eucom.mil/english/index.asp>

U.S. Transportation Command

<http://www.transcom.mil>

**Sudan News Agency -SUNA (August 1, 2005)**

<http://www.Suna-sd.Net>

### **The Presidency of Sudan Announces Death of Dr. John Garang**

Khartoum, August 1, (SUNA), - The Presidency announced the death of Dr. John Garang De-Mabior, First Vice President, in addition to 6 who were accompanying him and 7 members of the flight crew. The Presidency also confirmed in a statement this morning that the loss of Dr. John Garang is great and ensured that the road to peace will continue towards its goal. The president passed his deep condolences to the deceased's wife, children and colleagues in the SPLM. The presidency advised that the communications are continuing with the leaders of the SPLM who are gathered in New Site area in Southern Sudan in order to decide the funeral arrangements. The Presidency urged all citizens to stay calm until the country passes this difficult test while it is in better stability and unity. The President will receive condolences in the Republican Palace today starting from 12 noon from constitutionalists, diplomatic, leaders of the religious and political groups.

(SUNA) Following is the statement by the presidency:

(Verses from the Quran). The Presidency has been closely following the news regarding the disappearance of the plane of the First Vice President Dr. John Garang De-Mabior. It has been absolutely confirmed that the plane crashed when it hit the Amatong Mountains in the South of Sudan as a result of lack of visibility. This resulted in the death of Dr. John Garang and six of those accompanying him in addition to the 7 crew members of the Ugandan presidential air craft. As the President announces this painful news to the Sudanese and the whole peace loving world, he mourns a man who believed in peace and worked honestly and with great will and determination for its accomplishment which opened the hearts of all Sudanese for him. Our loss in the loss of Dr. John Garang is great and our condolence is that the peace case has become property of all Sudanese and those who love peace around the world. We confirm at the same time that the road to peace will continue towards its goal and our loss will only increase our will and determination to complete this mission which he and his colleagues have started. The communication are continuing with the SPLM leaders, who are meeting in the New Site area in South Sudan to decide the funeral arrangements. The President will receive condolences in the Republican Palace today starting from 12 noon for constitutionalists, diplomatic missions, leaders of political and religious leaders. We urge all citizens to stay calm until the country passes this difficult test while it is in better stability and unity.

### **Joint Six-Member Committee Between National Congress And SPLM Concludes Its Work**

Khartoum, July 31 (SUNA) - The joint six-member committee between the National Congress Party and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) concluded its work on Sunday as it briefed the political forces on joint vision for participation in the government of national unity at both the legislative and executive levels within the context of the federal government and the participation in the southern Sudan constitutional drafting commission. Member of the commission Dr Amin Hassan Omar said the fact that the commission did not touch the question of the participation of the parties at the level of the southern Sudan government and the northern

states to the fact that they are related to the approval of their respective constitutions. He said the commission would complete its assignment and submit its report after receiving the response of the parties and political organizations it met and obtaining their nominations for filling the various posts assigned for each in the legislative and the executive organs, affirming that the formation and the announcement to the National Unity Government and the Parliament would be in time as set in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. He said the committee has not received any major opposition as to the participation at the level of the National Assembly despite the reservations voiced by some political forces. He said the committee is tied to the fact of trying to involve all in the national unity government in the context of what is stipulated by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. He said the committee was doing its level best to reach even those in the opposition so that their opposition would be a rational opposition from inside the parliament. He revealed that the committee has already received nomination from some political parties as to their representatives in the National Assembly. He said the committee expected a wide participation in the parliament and a considerable involvement in the government. On his part, member of the committee Nhial Deng said the convening of the opening session of the parliament would take place before the ninth of August. He urged the various political parties to submit their representation, praising the spirit of patriotism and preservation of peace shown by the political forces they met.

### **Japanese Aid To Conflict-Affected Farmers In Southern Sudan**

Khartoum, July 31 (SUNA)- The Government of Japan has decided to provide 100 million yen (approximately 930,000 dollars) through the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), to help the conflict-affected people in southern Sudan. A press release by the Embassy of Japan in Khartoum said notes to this effect were exchanged on July 26 between Ms. Nobuko Matsuoka, Japanese ambassador to Italy, and Mr. David Harcharik, Deputy Director General of FAO in Rome. The press release pointed out that the grant is to support the FAO project aiming at enhancing self-sufficiency capability in food production among internally displaced persons started to return to southern Sudan and the local residents who receive those returnees, following the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. The Government of Japan has expressed its commitment to support consolidation of peace in Sudan at the Donors' Conference on Sudan 2005 held in April this year in Oslo and announced its intention to provide a package of assistance totaling 100 million dollars for the time being, the press release said. This Grant for south Sudan is a part of such efforts and also intended to support the new Government of National Unity in Sudan launched on July 9, it added. In the same context, Japan decided to provide food aid (530 million yen) for the returnees and the local residents in southern Sudan through the World Food Programme (WFP), the press release said.

### **Council Of Ministers Reviews A Number Of Reports**

Khartoum, July 31 (SUNA) - The Council of Ministers, chaired by the President of the Republic Field Marshal Omer Al-Bashir, Sunday approved a bill on the Act of the National Agency for Exports Financing for the year 2005. Meanwhile, the Council of Ministers stressed the necessity of tightening the continuous surveillance, inspection and control procedure on the aviation

companies toward guaranteeing air safety. This came after the Cabinet reviewed a report of the Minister of Aviation, Ali Tamim Fartak, on the aviation safety procedure which were adopted by the Ministry of Aviation. The Cabinet also approved statute of the Education Corporation for Printing and Publication for 2005.

### **Egyptian Investment Minister To Attend Inauguration Of Sudanese - Egyptian Bank**

Khartoum, July 31 (SUNA)- The Egyptian Minister of Investment is due to arrive in Khartoum Monday at the head of a delegation which includes Egyptian businessmen and investors to participate at inauguration of the Sudanese - Egyptian Bank and to hold talks on ways to consolidate the cooperation between Sudan and Egypt in the investment field. In a statement to SUNA, the General Director of the Sudanese-Egyptian Bank said that the authorized capital of the bank is six billion dinars. He indicated that establishment of the bank is aimed to consolidate the economic relations between Sudan and Egypt.

### **State Minister For Foreign Affairs Receives Finnish Ambassador**

Khartoum, July 31 (SUMA) - The State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Najib Al-Khair Abdul-Wahab, expressed Sudan hope to establish an embassy of Finland in Sudan toward enhancement of the relations between the two countries. This came when the state minister received Sunday the Ambassador of Finland to Sudan, resident in Cairo, on the expiry of his assignment to Sudan. The minister referred to remarkable enhancement of Sudan relations with the European countries, especially with Finland and the north European states. Abdul-Wahab briefed the ambassador on developments in Sudan, especially after the signing of the peace agreement, the ongoing preparations to establish the national unity government and the conditions in Darfur and east Sudan. The minister discussed with the Ambassador of Finland ways of consolidating the bilateral relations as well as utilization of the donation promised by Finland at Oslo Donors Conference in support of the rehabilitation and development in Sudan.

### **Minister Announces Reconsideration Of Budget To Meet Requirements Of Peace**

Khartoum, July 31 (SUNA)- Minister of Finance and National Economy Al-Zubair Ahmed Hassan has announced reconsideration of the current budget of the state to meet the requirements of peace, with taking into consideration proposals of the joint national team of the government and Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). Speaking in a press conference, the minister said the macro indicators for the economic performance during the first half of the current year are progressing as planned, pointing out that the budget targets a growth rate of 7.5%, but it would realize 8.3%. He added that the current budget has witnessed during the first six months many achievements in the development, services, infrastructures and social support sectors.

### **Al-Bashir Affirms National Congress Support For The South Sector**

Khartoum, July 31 (SUNA)- President of the Republic and Chairman of the National Congress Field Marshal Omer Al-Bashir has affirmed the party's support for the south sector to carry out its role in building confidence and boosting national unity in the coming period. Addressing the southern leaderships at the National Congress at the party's headquarters Saturday, President Al-Bashir stressed the importance of boosting peace and implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and making unity an attractive option for the citizens of the south. The Chairman of the National Congress pointed out that the party has presented many model leaderships from the southern states at the federal and state levels, commending their efforts in this regard. The occasion was also addressed by the Deputy Chairman of the National Congress for the South Affairs, Dr. Riek Gai, and Deputy Chairman of the National Congress for the Political and Organizational Affairs Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie.

### **Vice President Receives Chairman Of Saudi-German Hospitals Group**

Khartoum, July 31 (SUNA)- Vice President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha received at his office at the Council of Ministers Secretariat General the Chairman of the Saudi-German Hospitals Group, Eng. Subhi Al-Batargi, and discussed arrangements for implementation of Saudi-German Hospital project in Khartoum with an investment amounting to 50 million dollars. The hospital is planned to have a capacity of 150 beds and could be doubled in the future. The Vice President praised the distinguished relations between Sudan and Saudi Arabia, pointing to the contribution of the Saudi-German Hospital in support of medical services in Sudan.

## **Sudan Confirms Death Of VP Garang**

**The Associated Press**

August 1, 2005

LONDON, England (AP) -- The Sudanese government has confirmed that Vice President John Garang was killed when a Ugandan presidential aircraft he was traveling in crashed into a southern Sudan mountain range.

"It has now been confirmed that the plane crashed after it hit a mountain range in southern Sudan because of poor visibility and this resulted in the death of Dr. John Garang DeMabior, six of his colleagues and seven other crew members of the Ugandan presidential plane," according to a statement released by the office of Sudanese President Omar el-Bashir on Monday.

Ugandan officials said Garang and the others were flying in one of President Yoweri Museveni's personal helicopters, but the Sudanese statement said it was a plane. The conflict could not be immediately reconciled.

The bodies of Garang, six colleagues and seven crew members were found early Monday in rugged mountains running along the Sudanese-Ugandan border.

The Sudanese military said the aircraft left the Ugandan capital of Kampala for southern Sudan on Saturday at about 6:30 p.m.. Contact was lost with about an hour later, Sudanese information minister Abdel-Basit Sabdarat said on Sunday.

Ugandan, Sudanese and Kenyan troops have been hunting for the helicopter since early Sunday, after it failed to reach its destination in southern Sudan on Saturday.

His helicopter had attempted to land in the New Kush region of southern Sudan but aborted the landing because of bad weather and headed back south, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni said in a statement early Monday.

The helicopter was last heard near Pirre, a mountainous region near the Kenyan and Sudanese borders on the edge of a large national park, he said.

"The (Sudanese) president has appealed to the people to be calm, expressing that although the loss is great but the peace process will continue because peace has now become the property of the Sudanese people and peace-loving people around the world," said the Sudanese statement.

"We reaffirm the peace process will continue until we reach the objectives set and his (Garang's) departure will reinforce and give us more strength." said the statement.

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## **Riots After Sudan VP Garang Dies**

**BBC**

August 1, 2005

Large-scale riots have broken out in Sudan's capital Khartoum following the death of the country's vice-president, former rebel leader John Garang.

The BBC's Jonah Fisher in Khartoum says gangs of youths, thought to be from southern Sudan like Mr Garang, are on the streets and gunfire can be heard.

Mr Garang died in a helicopter crash as he was returning from Uganda.

He signed a deal to end 21 years of civil war in January and was sworn in as vice-president three weeks ago.

Roadblocks have been set up and access to the airport has been cut off, a European diplomat in Khartoum told the AFP news agency.

There is a heavy military presence on the streets, while burning cars are sending plumes of smoke over the capital.

There are also reports of unrest elsewhere in Sudan.

Peacemaker

Our correspondent says Mr Garang's importance in holding together southern Sudan cannot be overstated.

He was greeted as a peacemaker by more than one million people when he was sworn in three weeks ago as part of a deal ending a 21-year civil war.

Three days of national mourning have been declared.

Mr Garang was returning to his base in New Site in southern Sudan after flying to Uganda to meet President Yoweri Museveni.

Six of his associates and the seven-member crew of the Mi 72 Ugandan presidential helicopter also died in the crash, which is being blamed on bad weather.

Mr Garang's deputy in the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, Salva Kiir Mayardit, will take control of the former rebel group, the SPLM said.

Mr Mayardit said the SPLM remained committed to the peace agreement Mr Garang signed in January and urged all Sudanese to remain calm.

SPLM officials stressed that Mr Garang's death had been an accident.

Iron hand

Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir said he was confident that the peace agreement would remain on course.

The mediator in the long-running Sudanese peace talks, Kenyan General Lazaro Sumbeiywo, said it was clear from the peace agreement that whoever became SPLM leader would also take over as Sudan's vice-president.

Mr Garang's widow, Rebecca, told the BBC that the people of Sudan should carry on with his vision.

Mr Garang steered the mainly Christian and animist SPLM through a bloody war against the Islamic government in the north, which left at least 1.5 million people dead.

He ruled the disparate movement with an iron hand, and managed to keep it together. The conflict in Sudan ended with the signing of a peace agreement in January and Mr Garang became vice-president in a new government of national unity.

With his death the future of peace in Sudan is once more in the balance, correspondents say.

### **Dr. John Garang Killed in Helicopter Crash; Government of Sudan And SPLM Remain Committed to Peace**

#### **Sudan Radio Service**

01 August 2005 - (Nairobi) - Sudan's first vice president and leader of the Sudan people's liberation movement, doctor John Garang, is dead following a helicopter crash in southern Sudan over the weekend.

Official sources have now confirmed that doctor Garang was traveling by helicopter from Kampala to southern Sudan on Saturday. bad weather forced the helicopter to turn back after being unable to land at new site. by early Sunday morning Ugandan government officials were confirming that the helicopter had disappeared. officials now say that the helicopter crashed into a mountain, killing vice president Garang, 6 of his aides, and 7 Ugandan crew members.

s-p-l-m deputy chairman and vice president of the government of southern Sudan Salva Kiir told the press this morning in Nairobi that the s-p-l-m will remain united and committed to implementing the comprehensive peace agreement signed in January. Meanwhile, the SPLM old leadership council will convene in new site immediately to chart the way forward. Sudanese president Omar Hassan Al Bashir called the death of doctor Garang a great loss, saying that Garang was to play a "very important" role during this time. He called on the s-p-l-m to carefully select what he called a "suitable replacement." president Bashir offered his condolences to the Garang family and to all Sudanese, particular southerners. Both Salva kiir and Omar al Bashir urged all Sudanese to remain calm.

Doctor Garang 's widow, Mrs. Rebecca de Mabior, also made a statement to Sudan radio service in which she appealed for all Sudanese to be calm and to carry on her husband's vision by remaining committed to the peace process. she confirmed that doctor Garang' s body has been recovered and will be brought to new site.

Mrs. Garang told Sudan radio service that her husband's funeral arrangements will be made by the SPLM in consultation with Sudan government officials. The details of where and when doctor Garang will be buried will be announced following those consultations.

The Sudan government has declared an official 3-day mourning period for doctor Garang.

## **Sudan's SPLM Says Garang Death Won't Hurt Peace Deal** **AFP (August 1, 2005)**

NAIROBI, Aug 1 (AFP) — The ex-rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) said Monday the weekend death of its leader John Garang in a helicopter crash would not affect its commitment to a landmark January peace deal with Khartoum.

In a statement read to reporters at SPLM/A headquarters in the Kenyan capital following confirmation of Garang's death in the Saturday crash, the group also urged all Sudanese to remain calm and said its leaders would be meeting in an emergency session to plot strategy.

"I take this opportunity to assure the southern Sudanese in particular and the Sudanese people in general, that we in the SPLM/A leadership will continue the vision and the objective of the movement that Dr John Garang has articulated and hoped to implement," the group's deputy commander Salva Kiiri.

"We also want to assure everyone that the leadership and cadres of the SPLM/A will remain united and strive to faithfully implement the comprehensive peace agreement," he said.

## **Riots Break Out In Khartoum After Sudan Vice-President's Death** **AFX (August 1, 2005)**

KHARTOUM, Aug 1 (AFX) — Riots have broken out in the streets of the capital following the official announcement of vice-president and southern leader John Garang's death in an air crash, an Agence France-Presse correspondent reported.

Thousands took to the streets of Khartoum and its outskirts, some wielding knives and guns. Several people were lying on the ground, some possibly dead.

## **Garang Helicopter Wreckage, Bodies Found In Remote Southern Sudan** **The Associated Press (August 1, 2005)**

KAMPALA, Aug 1 (AFP) — The wreckage of a crashed Ugandan helicopter and the bodies of Sudanese Vice President John Garang and the 13 other people on board have been located in a remote area of southern Sudan, a Ugandan official said Monday.

The official, speaking to AFP on condition of anonymity, said a UN search team found the debris along with the bodies in an isolated region near Sudan's border with Kenya and Uganda.

"A UN team that went on the ground witnessed the wreckage," the official said. "It said that all people on board died."

In Nairobi, the deputy chief of Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) said the helicopter belonging to Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni had crashed south of the town of New Kush.

## **Sudan VP, Former Rebel Leader Garang Dead-State TV**

**Reuters**

Mon Aug 1, 2005 7:09 AM BST

By Khaled Abdel-Aziz and Daniel Wallis

Khartoum/Kampala (Reuters) - Sudan's First Vice-President and former rebel leader John Garang, who signed a deal this year to end Africa's longest civil war, died in a helicopter crash in southern Sudan, State TV said on Monday.

In a statement quoted by Sudanese state television, it said Garang, six of his companions and a crew of seven had died.

"The march of peace will continue towards its goal and his death will only make us stronger and more determined to complete the march which he began and his companions began," it added.

Garang left Uganda by helicopter late on Saturday to return to Sudan after talks with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni. But Uganda said on Sunday it had lost contact with the aircraft.

A diplomatic source said the wreckage of the helicopter was found in a remote region of southern Sudan near the border with Uganda.

"The wreckage is in southern Sudan. It was found by local people," the source, who tracks Sudan closely, told Reuters.

Garang was sworn in as first vice president in a landmark ceremony on July 9 and signed with his old enemy President Omar Hassan al-Bashir a new interim constitution.

"My presence here today in Khartoum is a true signal that the war is over," Garang said when he took his oath of office.

Garang and Bashir had been due to form a new government by August 9.

The leader of the former rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) returned to Khartoum for the first time in two decades on July 8, greeted by more than one million people -- so many that some people were crushed and killed in the crowd.

Garang was seen as critical to the success of the peace process in the south and many hoped he would work to end Sudan's conflict in Darfur. His death could deal a blow to the process and for hopes of resolving the conflict in the west.

"What happens next is very, very interesting. In the worst case scenario, it's a south-south war. In the best case, we will see a democratic overhaul of the SPLM, which many people view currently

as something of a dictatorship," said an experienced foreign Sudan observer well connected with the SPLM.

Garang was seen as more savvy than other SPLM leaders, however, he said. "Garang was a much cleverer politician than most of his fellows in the movement."

Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir and Second Vice-President Ali Osman Taha held an emergency meeting in Khartoum on Sunday. The cabinet was due to meet at 9 a.m. (0600 GMT) on Monday.

The southern civil war started in 1983 when the Islamist Khartoum government tried to impose Islamic Sharia law on the mainly Christian and animist south. Two million people died in the conflict.

## **Sudan's Former Rebel Leader Garang Dead-UN Official**

**Reuters**

Mon Aug 1, 2005 6:34 AM BST

By Khaled Abdel-Aziz and Daniel Wallis

Khartoum/Kampala (Reuters) - Sudan's First Vice-President and former rebel leader John Garang, who signed a deal this year to end Africa's longest civil war, has died in a helicopter crash in southern Sudan, sources said on Monday.

Rudi Muller, head of the Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in southern Sudan, told Reuters by telephone from southern Sudan he had been told of Garang's death by the governor of the Lake State in southern Sudan.

"It was the governor of the Lake State who told us in a meeting at 3.30 a.m. that Doctor Garang has been killed in an accident," he said.

The governor, Pagan Amum, had no further details. Amum is also a senior member of Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM).

A diplomatic source said the wreckage of the helicopter Garang was travelling in was found in a remote region of southern Sudan near the border with Uganda.

"The wreckage is in southern Sudan. It was found by local people. That is what we are hearing from the SPLM," the source, who tracks Sudan closely, told Reuters.

Garang -- who waged a two-decade war against Khartoum from southern Sudan until a peace deal in January -- left Uganda by helicopter late on Saturday to return to Sudan after talks with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni.

Uganda said it had lost contact with the aircraft and its military had begun a search.

A source close to Uganda's military said, "All the occupants are believed to have died, including Dr. Garang."

But the SPLM, which Garang led, said it could not confirm the report.

"We cannot confirm. How can we do that if the plane has not even been found?" the main SPLM spokesman Samson Kwaje, a senior official in the movement, told Reuters.

The Sudanese government also could not confirm his death.

Garang was sworn in as first vice president in a landmark ceremony on July 9 and signed with his old enemy President Omar Hassan al-Bashir a new interim constitution.

"My presence here today in Khartoum is a true signal that the war is over," Garang said when he took his oath of office.

Garang and Bashir had been due to form a new government by August 9.

His return to Khartoum on July 8 for the first time in two decades was greeted by more than one million people -- so many that some people were crushed and killed in the crowd.

He was seen as critical to the peace deal in the south and many hoped he would work to end Sudan's conflict in Darfur. His death could be a blow to the north-south peace process and for hopes of resolving the conflict in the west.

"What happens next is very, very interesting. In the worst case scenario, it's a south-south war. In the best case, we will see a democratic overhaul of the SPLM, which many people view currently as something of a dictatorship," said an experienced foreign Sudan observer well connected with the SPLM.

Garang seen as head-and-shoulders above other SPLM leaders, however. "Garang was a much cleverer politician than most of his fellows in the movement."

Garang had left Uganda by helicopter late on Saturday. Uganda said on Sunday it had lost contact with the aircraft and its military had begun a search in the remote Kidepo area, which lies on the border with Sudan.

"We share the anxiety of the public since it is now 24 hours since the estimated arrival of the helicopter at its destination," a statement issued by Museveni early on Monday said.

"Since (Sunday) morning, we have been searching the Kidepo area to locate the chopper without success," it said.

Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir and Second Vice-President Ali Osman Taha held an emergency meeting in Khartoum on Sunday. The cabinet was due to meet at 9 a.m. (0600 GMT) on Monday.

Sudan's Information Minister Abdel Basit Sabderat said he could not confirm or deny the report of Garang's death. "There is nothing to confirm this news up until now. I cannot deny or confirm," he told satellite news channel Al Jazeera.

Contacts were under way with the SPLM and the United Nations to "know the place of the (helicopter)," he added.

The southern civil war started in 1983 when the Islamist Khartoum government tried to impose Islamic Sharia law on the mainly Christian and animist south.

(Additional reporting by Opheera McDoom in London, Tom Perry in Cairo, Katie Nguyen, Andrew Cawthorne, Bryson Hull and Wangui Kanina in Nairobi)

## **Sudanese VP, 13 Others Die In Plane Crash**

**The Associated Press**

Monday, August 1, 2005; 2:24 AM

By Mohamed Osman And Tanalee Smith

KHARTOUM, Sudan -- Sudanese Vice President John Garang, a former rebel leader who is a key figure in the country's fledgling peace deal, died when a Ugandan presidential plane he was traveling in crashed into a southern Sudan mountain range, Sudan's president said Monday.

The crash site was found near the Uganda-Sudan border, a senior Ugandan official said. Ugandan and Sudanese forces had been searching for Garang's plane since Sunday.

"It has now been confirmed that the plane crashed after it hit a mountain range in southern Sudan because of poor visibility and this resulted in the death of Dr. John Garang DeMabior, six of his colleagues and seven other crew members of the Ugandan presidential plane," according to a statement released by the office of Sudanese President Omar el-Bashir.

Garang's death would be a heavy blow to the January peace deal that ended a 21-year civil war between the mostly Muslim north and the Christian and animist south in which some 2 million people died.

The 60-year-old former rebel, who was sworn in as vice president just three weeks ago, left on a flight from Uganda for southern Sudan at 5:30 p.m. Ugandan time Saturday afternoon, Sudanese and Ugandan officials said. It was not clear when the last contact with his craft took place.

Garang's plane had attempted to land in the New Kush region of southern Sudan but aborted the landing because of bad weather and headed back south, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni said early Monday. Weather reports showed rain in the area.

Garang, who earned a doctorate from Iowa State University, is seen as the sole figure with the weight to give southern Sudanese a role in the Khartoum government, which they deeply mistrust. He also was a strong voice against outright secession by the south, calling instead for autonomy and power-sharing.

Sudanese have celebrated the power-sharing agreement \_ and a new constitution signed afterward \_ as opening a new chapter of peace and as a chance to resolve other bloody conflicts in Sudan, including the humanitarian crisis in the western region of Darfur. Garang was seen as a great hope for peace in Darfur.

Garang was sworn in as vice president on July 9 \_ second only to his longtime enemy, President Omar el-Bashir. He and el-Bashir were to work on setting up a power-sharing government and on elevating Garang's rebel troops to an equal status with the Sudanese military.

There is no other leader of Garang's stature in the former rebel movement, the Sudan People's Liberation Army, which he founded and dominated for 21 years. His arrival in Khartoum on July 8 to take the vice president's post brought millions of southerners and northerners to the streets in celebration.

His flight's disappearance brought up the specter of the 1994 downing of the airplane of Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana, who had been trying to implement a power-sharing deal between his fellow Hutus and the rival Tutsis. His death opened the doors to the Rwandan genocide in which more than 500,000 people were killed.

That genocide took place after months of preparation by Hutu militants \_ something that has not taken place in Sudan amid the good feelings over the peace deal.

Garang was returning home from a private visit to Uganda, flying from the capital Kampala to southern Sudan \_ a trip that normally takes about two hours \_ said Ugandan army spokesman 2nd Capt. Dennis Musitwa.

A Ugandan rebel group, the Lord's Resistance Army, operates in the area and has shot down Ugandan military helicopters in the past.

El-Bashir clearly saw Garang as an important partner in sealing the peace, ensuring the south does not secede, and in repairing Sudan's international reputation. With a speed stunning to many in Sudan, the Sudanese state media went from describing Garang in the darkest terms to respectively calling him "Dr. Garang" after the peace deal was struck.

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Mohamed Osman reported on this story from Khartoum, and Tanalee Smith reported from Kassala, Sudan. Henry Wasswa contributed from Kampala, Uganda.

## **Sudan Vice President Dies In Copter Crash**

**The Associated Press**

August 1, 2005

Filed at 1:54 a.m. ET

Khartoum, Sudan (AP) -- Sudanese Vice President John Garang, a former rebel leader who is a key figure in the country's fledgling peace deal, was found dead early Monday near the Uganda-Sudan border after the helicopter he was riding in crashed, a senior Ugandan official said.

Six of Garang's aides and eight Ugandans were also killed, the official said. The crash site was in southern Sudan, near the border with northeast Uganda, the official said on condition of anonymity because an official announcement hadn't yet been made.

Ugandan and Sudanese forces had been searching for Garang's helicopter since Sunday. Uganda's president said it had crashed in bad weather.

Garang's death would be a heavy blow to the January peace deal that ended a 21-year civil war between the mostly Muslim north and the Christian and animist south in which some 2 million people died.

The 60-year-old former rebel, who was sworn in as vice president just three weeks ago, left on a flight from Uganda for southern Sudan at 5:30 p.m. Ugandan time Saturday afternoon, Sudanese and Ugandan officials said. It was not clear when the last contact with his craft took place.

Garang's helicopter had attempted to land in the New Kush region of southern Sudan but aborted the landing because of bad weather and headed back south, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni said early Monday. Weather reports showed rain in the area.

The craft was heard near Pirre, a mountainous region near the Kenyan and Sudanese borders on the edge of a large national park, and was believed to have crash-landed, Museveni said. He added that the Kenyans had been asked to help in the search.

Garang, who earned a doctorate from Iowa State University, is seen as the sole figure with the weight to give southern Sudanese a role in the Khartoum government, which they deeply mistrust. He also was a strong voice against outright secession by the south, calling instead for autonomy and power-sharing.

Sudanese have celebrated the power-sharing agreement -- and a new constitution signed afterward -- as opening a new chapter of peace and as a chance to resolve other bloody conflicts in Sudan, including the humanitarian crisis in the western region of Darfur. Garang was seen as a great hope for peace in Darfur.

Garang was sworn in as vice president on July 9 -- second only to his longtime enemy, President Omar el-Bashir. He and el-Bashir were to work on setting up a power-sharing government and on elevating Garang's rebel troops to an equal status with the Sudanese military.

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That genocide took place after months of preparation by Hutu militants -- something that has not taken place in Sudan amid the good feelings over the peace deal.

Garang was returning home from a private visit to Uganda, flying from the capital Kampala to southern Sudan -- a trip that normally takes about two hours -- said Ugandan army spokesman 2nd Capt. Dennis Musitwa.

"We share the anxieties of the public since it is now 24 hours since the estimated time of arrival of the helicopter at its destination," Museveni, the Ugandan president, said in his statement.

A Ugandan rebel group, the Lord's Resistance Army, operates in the area and has shot down Ugandan military helicopters in the past.

El-Bashir clearly saw Garang as an important partner in sealing the peace, ensuring the south does not secede, and in repairing Sudan's international reputation. With a speed stunning to many in Sudan, the Sudanese state media went from describing Garang in the darkest terms to respectively calling him "Dr. Garang" after the peace deal was struck.

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Mohamed Osman reported on this story from Khartoum, and Tanalee Smith reported from Kassala, Sudan. Henry Wasswa contributed from Kampala, Uganda.

## **Sudan Confirms Death Of Vice-President Garang**

**AFP**

August 1, 2005

Khartoum - Sudan's vice president and former rebel leader John Garang has died in an air crash, according to a statement from President Omar al-Beshir read on state television Monday.

Earlier, Ugandan officials said all passengers and crew aboard a Ugandan helicopter carrying Garang died when in a crash near the Kenyan border.

Garang, the head of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, became vice president only three weeks ago following a peace deal that ended 21 years of civil war between north and south Sudan.

"The presidency has followed the reports about the disappearance of the aircraft of Sudanese Vice-President John Garang and it is confirmed beyond doubt that it crashed...", the statement said

"It resulted in the death of John Garang and six people accompanying him as well as seven members of the crew of the Ugandan presidential aircraft."

## **Sudan Confirms Death Of Vice President Garang**

**Xinhuanet**

August 1, 2005

Nairobi -- Sudanese Vice President and former rebel leader John Garang was killed in an air crash, President Omar el-Bashir said in a statement on Monday.

The statement was made following a meeting of the Sudanese Council of Ministers chaired by Bashir and attended by some officials of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) led by Garang.

The crash occurred when Garang left Uganda by helicopter late on Saturday to return to Sudan after talks with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni.

Uganda later said it had lost contact with the aircraft.

The statement said the helicopter carrying Garang from Uganda to southern Sudan crashed, killing Garang and other six people on board.

It said that the chopper crashed after it hit the Amatong Mountain in southern Sudan due to bad weather condition.

Garang, key leader of Sudan's southern rebels, had led a 21-year-long war against the Sudanese government.

After signing a landmark comprehensive peace deal with Khartoum ending the longest civil war in Africa, Garang was sworn in as first vice president on July 9.

## **New No. 2 In Sudan, An Ex-Rebel Leader, Dies In Copter Crash**

By Marc Lacey

**The New York Times**

August 1, 2005

Nairobi, Kenya, Monday, Aug. 1 - A helicopter carrying John Garang, a longtime rebel leader and newly installed vice president of Sudan, went down over the weekend, killing Mr. Garang, as it flew through inclement weather from northern Uganda to southern Sudan, officials said.

Newly installed vice president of Sudan John Garang was killed in a helicopter crash during the weekend.

"There is something that has been found," Lt. Col. Shaban Bantariza, the Ugandan military spokesman, said Monday morning after a frantic search operation was begun for the wreckage of the Ugandan military helicopter that carried Mr. Garang.

There had been confusion as to his fate after Sudan's state television said the helicopter had landed safely in a camp in southern Sudan. But early Monday Ugandan officials said that they had located the wreckage and that there were no survivors. An official announcement was expected later Monday.

It was just three weeks ago that Mr. Garang was sworn in as vice president, a historic moment that drew in excess of a million people to the streets of Khartoum, the Sudanese capital. He had headed a rebel group, the Sudan People's Liberation Army, that had fought since 1983 to topple the Sudanese government.

Mr. Garang's played such a pivotal role in the peace agreement signed in January, bringing an end to the 21-year-long civil war in Sudan, that his death was seen as a serious setback. He had been instrumental in keeping southern rebels together and had survived many attempts on his life. "Losing John Garang is very shocking news," said Lazaro Sumbeiywo, a retired Kenyan general who led the peace talks and was informed of Mr. Garang's death by associates this morning. "He was an extraordinary person. This whole process will not be the same."

The question of succession remains uncertain. Officials said there was no sign of foul play in Mr. Garang's death.

Mr. Garang had been flying home late Saturday from an official visit with President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda. He was en route to his base in southern Sudan in a Ugandan military helicopter when Ugandan authorities lost track of the craft, said Lt. Col. Shaban Bantariza, the Ugandan military spokesman.

Mr. Garang had arrived in Uganda on Friday afternoon and flew to Mr. Museveni's country house in Rwakitura, nearly 200 miles southeast of Kampala, the Ugandan capital.

The leaders, who have long been allies, discussed the war in northern Uganda in which rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army have terrorized the local population, often making raids from bases in southern Sudan. Mr. Garang had said he intended to force those rebels to leave Sudan.

To seal the peace agreement, Mr. Garang was sworn in on July 9 as vice president of Sudan, after having led a rebellion against Sudan's Islamist government in Khartoum since 1983. He was sworn in by President Omar al-Bashir, the man he had tried to topple.

Under the power-sharing agreement, Mr. Garang held a position in the national government and governs southern Sudan. Residents of the south will vote in a referendum in six years to determine whether they want to secede from the rest of the country.

Unrelated to the southern rebels, fighting continues in eastern Sudan and the western region of Darfur.